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PTO/SB/21 (6-99)

09-25-06

1647

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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	09/849,868		
		Filing Date	May 4, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Wei-Qiang GAO		
		Group/Art Unit	1647		
		Examiner Name	Gamett, Daniel C.		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	39766-0035C1		
<b>ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form  <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> To Restriction Requirement <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (including cited references)  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53  <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.48(b)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, by Assignee to Exclusion of Inventor Under 37 C.F.R. §3.71 With Revocation of Prior Powers  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL ENCLOSURE(S) (PLEASE IDENTIFY BELOW):  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STAMPED RETURN POSTCARD			
		<b>Remarks</b>			
		<b>AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 08-1641 FOR ANY FEES DUE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PAPER, REFERENCING ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 39766-0035C1.</b>			
		<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT</b>			
		Firm or Individual name	HELLER EHRLMAN LLP 275 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, California 94025	JAMES A. FOX (Reg. No. 38,455) Telephone: (650) 324-7000	Facsimile: (650) 324-0638
		Signature			
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ) Examiner: GAMETT, Daniel C.  
Wei-Qiang GAO ) ) Art Unit: 1647  
Application Serial No. 09/849,868 ) ) Confirmation No. 1085  
Filed: May 4, 2001 ) ) Attorney's Docket No. 39766-0035 C1  
For: HAIR CELL DISORDERS ) ) Customer No. 25213  
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Date Mailed: September 22, 2006

### **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria Virginia, 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed July 19, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the following amendments to the claims and to consider the following arguments.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 8.